

**MID-COAST FORUM ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**  
**P.O. BOX 41 ROCKPORT, MAINE 04856**

March 26, 2011

Dear Forum Members and Friends of the Nieman Weekend,

The Forum's twenty-third annual Nieman Fellows Weekend this spring, May 20 to 22, will bring to our community as many as fourteen distinguished international journalists who are Nieman Fellows at Harvard, together with their families. This is a rare opportunity to meet and exchange views with exceptionally well-informed men and women from around the world.

We urge you to look over the schedule and the list of invited Fellows. As you'll see, we've planned a full morning on Saturday in order to give all of the Fellows ample time to share their information and insights.

This year we are pleased to offer a pre-dinner speaker, NPR's Anne Garrels, to address the Fellows and our members. Ms. Garrels is a former Nieman Fellow, and has distinguished herself by her live NPR coverage from Iraq and her book *Naked in Bagdad*.

If you'd like to be part of the weekend, please fill out the attached form and return it as soon as possible—in order to help us with our planning and organizing. (We will be very glad to send an invitation to anyone else you think might like to participate in this event.)

Of particular importance to the success of the weekend is the willingness of participants to open their homes to these guests from abroad. Many of them, we have found, will not have had a chance for this kind of close contact with American families. If you cannot offer overnight hospitality, we hope you'll take the opportunity to converse with them over lunch or dinner.

For those of you who sign up to be hosts—and we certainly hope many of you will—we will attempt to honor your preferences on a "first come, first served" basis (please remember to list your three choices). Those who are willing to house a family with children will be particularly appreciated.

If you have questions, please contact me (691-1132, macd@ime.net) or Sarah Rheault (236-8288, srheault1@roadrunner.com).

We look forward to seeing you at the Nieman Fellows Weekend.

Sincerely,



T. M. ("Mac") Deford, President

**BOARD:** James Algrant, Kathy Brandes, Thomas M. Deford, Tom DeMarco, Ronald Jarvella, Patrick Mundy, Sarah B. Rheault, Jan Rosenbaum, T. Richard Snyder, Lee Webb